

22 Match & Return

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Attn: ISSUE BRANCH

Shinichi KONISHI et al.

Confirmation No. 4926

Serial No. 09/840,874

[Group Art Unit 2651

Filed April 25, 2001

Examiner A. M. Psitos]

OPTICAL DISC DEVICE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.312(a) AFTER RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 1, differential amplifier 7, A/D converter 8, offset control circuit 9, and D/A converter 10 form an "offset control loop." Providing an offset control loop makes it possible to control the center of DC level fluctuation in the signal input to A/D converter 8 to approximately the center of the range of voltage levels (hereinafter referred to as "conversion level") that can be converted by A/D converter 8. The value of the conversion level center point output by A/D converter 8 after analog-to-digital conversion has a value of 0, where voltage values below this center point are output as negative values, and voltage values above this center point are output as positive values.

X

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